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Country - ~~Peru~~ **ECUADOR**

Subject - Transportation and Communications

Place Acquired - [REDACTED]

Date Acquired - [REDACTED] 25X1A6a

Date of Information - 18 Jun 53

Source Description - [REDACTED] 25X1X6

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1. Since 21 May 1953, the Guayaquil-Quito Railroad has been running through to Quito, although on 22,24 May there was another interruption due to the fact that the Chan-chan River again washed away part of the right-of-way. However, the rainy season is about over now and it can be expected that the railroad will run regularly from now on. On the other hand, there is a tremendous backlog of shipments in Guayaquil, and it is to be expected that normal operations on the railroad will not be resumed for about a month.
2. Traffic is now running over the Babahoyo-Guaranda and the Quevedo-Latacunga roads (18 June 1953), but washouts still occur. Direct traffic by road from Quito to Guayaquil (via Quevedo) should be on a normal basis from 1 July on.
3. Improvements made to the Quito airfield now permit operations with four-engine planes, and Panagra has had a DC-4 plane on the local service for the past two weeks, helping out with the airlift.
4. The telephone company in Quito is arranging to increase the number of automatic phones in use from 6,000 to 8,000.
5. The Instituto de Prevision Social has just granted a loan of Scs. 5,000,000 to be used for improvement of the road linking Puerto Bolivar-Machala-Pasaje, over which most of the bananas for export are transported.
6. The Ministro de Obras Publicas announced that 80 kms. of the coastal section of the Duran-Tambo road (joining Guayaquil and Cuenca) will be paved before the end of the year at a cost of Scs. 8,000,000.

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